

FINAL LIST OF CITIZEN RECOMMENDATIONS FOR CHARTER CHANGES**Total****Sub-Total****ETHICS****116**

Anyone convicted of a felony should not be allowed to be considered for appointed positions	7	
Public officials convicted of a felony while in office should be removed from office	7	
Should any elected or appointed officials indicted (not convicted) of a felony continue to serve? (most say, at the least, leave of absence)	4	
Require persons indicted for crimes to remove themselves from city business until issue is resolved	4	

(From Allen Wade: Section about political activity in our charter was struck down by the state
(e.g., one person can be in state elected office and a local elected office at the same time))

Term Limits**90**

Mayor only	1	
Mayor and City Council	58	
All elected officials	28	
City Council terms in office should be staggered	3	

Open Records laws / issues**77**

All budgets, financial statements and audits should be posted on the internet	1	
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Memphis Light Gas and Water**75**

Require a voter referendum for approval of sale of MLG&W	23	
Increase the number of the board of directors of MLG&W from 5 to 9	32	
4 of the MLG&W board members should be elected at-large by the citizens.		1
Same Make MLG&W a separate entity, like the Airport Authority	1	
Employees of Memphis Light Gas and Water shall be considered city employees and all provisions for Memphis city employees	1	
Shall apply to them, except there shall be no transfer of retirement credits or time between the two separate entities.		
It will be considered a termination and new hire between unrelated entities.		
Same The Memphis Light Gas & Water Division should become a regional utility authority. (Frierson Graves)	2	
MLG&W Board of Directors will be the ones to choose the company's president.	1	

Recommendations for Charter changes that are put on the election ballot should be at line-item level**45****City Pension Fund and Program issues****42**

The ability to collect 2 pensions at the same time (retire from one job and collect pension, then get another city job which also qualifies for a pension) should be REMOVED from the charter.	4	
Prohibit city council from setting its own pension rules	5	
The standard retirement age will be 65 except for police and firemen who will be allowed to retire at 59 without penalty	1	
But are not required to do so. All federal rules with respect other early retirement will be used.		

Main Feedback

(From Tom Marshall: the City Council is the Custodian of trust that information received is accurate - no mechanism to verify information received (no staff) - need strong liaison between Council and Administration -- Pension plan is a valid example: wasn't written by council, was written by the administration)

City Budget Issues

39

Line-time budgeting is needed. There should be no funds moved from one line-item to another without council approval 9

No real property sold or purchased or leased without submission of the contract for or lease for approval of the price, terms and conditions by the City Council (Frierson Graves) (see "Executive authority needs to be limited") 2

(From Allen Wade: Budget -- broad authority vs. line-item restrictions -- council has authority to budget but mayor has authority to hire and set salaries - > does it require council approval for salary requested by mayor? -- council can add divisions in addition to what is in the charter. Specific amounts in charter that are based on 'cost of living' -- may need add'l language to allow for increases in the cost of living)

Mayoral Appointments issues

30

Mayoral appointments should only be for existing positions defined in the charter 17

All Mayoral appointees should be approved by the City Council 7

Citizens may propose amendments to the Charter via petition, and such changes will be subject to voter referendum

29

Executive authority needs to be limited

19

limited contractual authority -- any contracts over \$50,000 should require the approval of the City Council 3

limited contractual authority -- any contracts over \$75,000 should require the approval of the City Council 1

All bond issues -- revenue, government/utilities, and bearer - should be publicly offered and bids should be opened publicly 1

instead of being offered, selected, and granted by the Mayor. The bond issues should be standardized (design-forced, mechanization, repetitive job tasks) to ensure that everyone is bidding on the same data/specs, and to ensure that the lowest bid IS the best bid and is the bid that is awarded the contract.

Prohibit mayor from signing any contract unless it has been approved, and funded, by city council 13

(Per Allen Wade: Power of contract - charter says it 'remains' with the mayor but never said it was 'with' the mayor --

Issue raised in 1988 to include City Council in that contract power, but was not changed.

Interim appointments - mayor can appoint on interim basis but never brings appointment to council for approval; person stays in the position)

(From Tom Marshall: Where authority lies - word "solely" (regarding contractual authority) is NOT in the charter. Powers of mayor vs. powers of council is issue, needs to be more clearly defined. Otherwise, believes part-time council works. Council SHOULD have contractual authority, not just mayor.

Example: pension fund - council was told had no power of contract so no council member could be on the pension board. Need, at the least, to see the final 'contract' before it is sealed. Details of power of contracts for council members should be clearly defined to mitigate conflict of interest.

Roles and Responsibilities are vague in current charter - problem with nomenclature more than intent.)

Run-off elections --

13

All elected positions 6

Mayor and City Council 5

Instant run-offs (IRV)

3

(From Allan Wade: [Municipal elections](#) - not adequately addressed in the charter -- city had to go to state court of appeals to get a ruling)

Prohibit city council from making any change in the city charter by ordinance or otherwise without voter approval. **9**

Recommend that a regular review of the Charter be specified in the Charter itself. **4**

This is possible, but the interval period between reviews must be at least 10 years, per the state charter.

(From Allen Wade: No mechanism in current charter for 'clean up' as another avenue outside of the only current way, which is charter commission per state charter (our elected group).)

?? Any referendum voted by the citizens of Memphis can only be revoked or overturned by another referendum ?? **3**

Need a charter section like the Shelby County charter sections which allow citizen generated referendums like the voters used in 1994 to set term limits on County Commissioners

1

Regarding age and residency requirements for City Council positions – the minimum age requirement should be 21, which is voting age. If a person is old enough to vote, they should be old enough to run for office. **1**

Focus on policy issues concerning the authority of elected an/or appointed officials -- **1**
Any 'specifics' should be clearly and simply identified to where there can NOT be ANY misunderstanding as to what it means.

The restriction of city employees having to live in the city should be eliminated **1**

ALL employees of the city need to live in the city. **1**

ALL employees of the city need to live in the city or in Shelby County **1**